

NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2021

An update and news

for 2021

plus reminders of FDP connections

Best wishes to you all from Dymock!

I am sorry that we have not been able to hold meetings for the last year, but we are looking to meet in Dymock in October. The proposed date is Saturday 9th October. This will be our formal Annual General Meeting but I hope we can also gather some of the speakers proposed for our cancelled meeting in Swindon. A detailed programme will be issued closer to the time but please make a note of the date.

I suggest this will be an opportunity for you to share some of our own favourite poems from Dymock Poets and indeed other Gloucestershire poets and friends! I should like to ask you to read, & would welcome other contributions and ideas. I want to hear your voices, and see you all as we meet again!

This is an opportune moment to ask for your support in planning and arranging our meetings. We are lacking active members and are in urgent need of members prepared to help to plan, run and organise our events, and the day to day running of the society. Our treasurer is stepping down, so we need to replace Andrew, who has kindly stayed in post during the pandemic. Without a treasurer we cannot function.

Contact me to contribute ideas, and practical help, for the running of this forthcoming meeting and of future events. Without member's efforts, we cannot function.

See you in October!

Richard (chairman@dymockpoets.org.uk)

PLEASE NOTE our Membership Secretary, Clare Church, has moved house. Her details are now on the website. Any correspondence should now be directed to: **FDP Membership, 3 Hudson Walk, Newent, Gloucestershire. GL18 1UG**. Her email remains as before: **membership@dymockpoets.org.uk**

We have been invited to have an involvement with the Edward Thomas Fellowship virtual festival 27th September – 3rd October but this will be dependent on support from all members, especially those who would be willing to help with presentations by speaking, videoing or taking appropriate photographs. The current working theme of the ETF Festival is “Roads and Pathways” which links in well with the Poets Paths in Dymock.

We are pleased to say that we have not been inactive over the last year!

Journal No. 20 has been compiled, many thanks to the Editor, John Monks, for all his efforts, and we hope that your copy has reached you. Inadvertently some of the journal mailings may have had insufficient postage. If you have had to pay additional postage please let us know. (secretary@dymockpoets.org.uk)

We are in discussions with the Windcross Paths Group about contributing towards improvements, replacing a stile with a gate, on one of the Poets Paths.

Richard Simkin has written to Dymock Parish Council about a planning application. We show this below:

Dear Chair,

I am concerned to see a third attempt to build a large reservoir adjacent to the bridleway GDY 75 and footpath GRA31 footpath.

This appears to mimic two previous applications that were rejected and would risk completely changing this landscape. I have not had time yet to study all the documents, but I would be grateful if you could clarify if this application is correctly notified as being in, or partly in our parish. I hope our Parish Council will take urgent action to object to this application, as have Redmarley Parish Council.

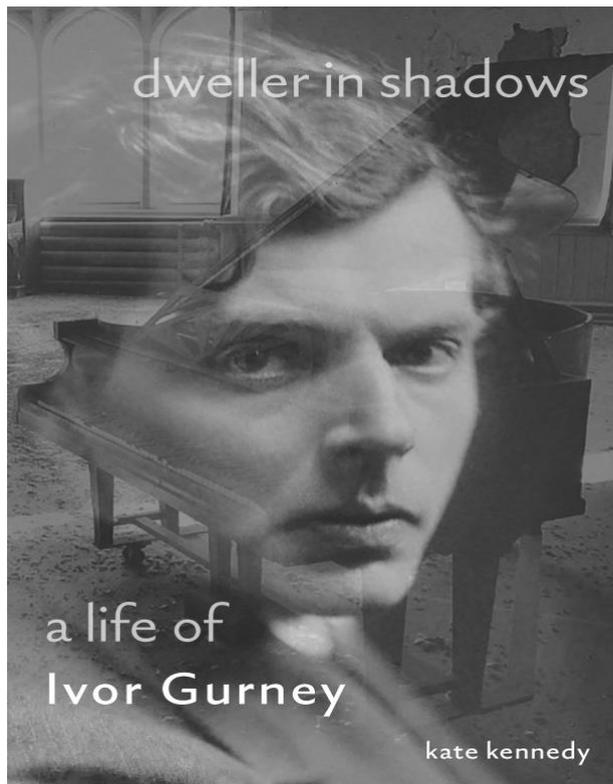
Sir Andrew Motion, then President of The Campaign to Protect Rural England and former poet laureate, said in an objection sent to the planning committee:

“These are the pathways and fields beloved of the Dymock Poets - the places where Edward Thomas walked with Robert Frost, and where they all in their different ways used the landscape as their inspiration and subject. I can just about see the agricultural and financial case for the proposal to cover it with poly tunnels, but really and truly it would be a horrendous act of vandalism to do so. It is one of the most significant literary sites in England, and deserves to be protected for that reason alone - not to mention its particular and outstanding beauty.”

Yours sincerely

Richard Simkin (Chair: Friends of the Dymock Poets) Crowfield Farm, Dymock

We would like to remind all our members of our membership of the British Association for Local History (<https://www.balh.org.uk/>) who provide a list of (currently) on-line events and a selection of '10 minute talks' on local history across the country. Our membership number is: 13903



We are delighted to be able to offer [Dweller in Shadows: A Life of Ivor Gurney](#) by Kate Kennedy at a 30% discount for a limited time.

Kennedy presents the first comprehensive biography of this extraordinary and misunderstood artist. Drawing on extensive archival research and spanning literary criticism, history, psychiatry and musicology, this compelling narrative sets Gurney's life and work against the backdrop of the war and his institutionalisation, probing the links between madness, suffering and creativity. Facing death in the trenches, Gurney hoped that history might not "forget me quite." This definitive account of his life and work helps ensure that he will indeed be remembered.

Visit Princeton University Press's website to order your copies of [Dweller in Shadows](#) at a 30% discount (postage and packing costs will be added at point of purchase). Please use the special offer code DWE21 at the checkout to redeem your offer. Offer available until 30 November 2021.

We are most grateful to Princeton University Press for this generous offer.